

Remarks

The Office Action dated August 23, 2002 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof. Submitted herewith, in Appendix A, is a Submission of Marked Up Claims, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121.

Claims 1-20 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-20 stand rejected.

The rejection of Claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Michaels is respectfully traversed.

As amended, Claim 1 recites, "An electronically commutated brushless motor comprising: a housing having a circumferential internal wall and an end wall formed near a proximal end of said housing such that said internal wall extends proximally past said end wall,... a bridge integrally formed with said end wall, said internal wall surrounding said bridge, said bridge having a generally hollow, distally facing interior area, said bridge configured to substantially enclose and precisely support said position sensor within said interior area;... and wherein said locating ribs and said bridge, both being integrally formed on said housing, eliminate the possibility of misalignment of said position sensor relative to said stator during assembly of said motor."

Michaels et. al. does not show or describe a housing having a circumferential internal wall and an end wall formed near a proximal end of the housing such that the internal wall extends proximally past the end wall. Nor does Michaels et. al show or describe a bridge integrally formed with the end wall such that the internal wall surrounds the bridge, wherein the bridge has a generally hollow, distally facing interior area configured to substantially enclose and precisely support a position sensor. Rather, Michaels et. al. describes a reluctance machine 10 having a front end-shield 12a and a rear end-shield 12b positioned adjacent to and attached to a stator 11. Additionally, Michaels et. al. describes a sensor board 25 coupled to an exterior side of the rear end-shield 12b. Thus, Michaels et. al. does not show or describe a housing having a circumferential internal wall that extends distally past an end wall having an integrally formed bridge surrounded by the internal wall, wherein the bridge has a generally hollow, distally facing interior area configured to substantially enclose and precisely support a position sensor. For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is patentable over Michaels et. al.

Claims 2-6 depend, directly or indirectly, from Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-6 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that Claims 2-6 are likewise patentable over Michaels et. al.

With respect to Claim 7, the limitations recited in amended Claim 7 are similar to the limitations recited in Claim 1. In accordance with the remarks set forth above with

respect to Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 7 is patentable over Michaels et. al.

Claims 8-14 depend, directly or indirectly, from Claim 7. When the recitations of Claims 8-14 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicants submit that Claims 8-14 are likewise patentable over Michaels et. al.

With respect to Claim 15, the limitations recited in amended Claim 15 are similar to the limitations recited in Claim 1. In accordance with the remarks set forth above with respect to Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 15 is patentable over Michaels et. al.

Claims 16-18, depend, directly or indirectly, from Claim 15. When the recitations of Claims 16-18 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 15, Applicants submit that Claims 16-18 are likewise patentable over Michaels et. al.

With respect to Claim 19, the limitations recited in amended Claim 19 are similar to the limitations recited in Claim 1. In accordance with the remarks set forth above with respect to Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 19 is patentable over Michaels et. al.

With respect to Claim 20, the limitations recited in amended Claim 20 are similar to the limitations recited in Claim 1. In accordance with the remarks set forth above with

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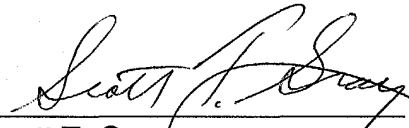
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Attorney Docket No. 0275L-000527 CPB

respect to Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 20 is patentable over
Michaels et. al.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section
102(b) rejection of Claims 1-20 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now pending in
this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and
favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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